

REMARKS

Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application, with Claims 1, 8, and 11 being independent.

Claims 8-12 and 14 have been amended herein. No new matter has been added.

Applicants appreciate the indication that Claims 1-7 are allowed, and that Claims 9-18 contain allowable subject matter.

The abstract of the disclosure was objected to on formal grounds. In response, Applicants have amended the abstract herein. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are requested.

Claims 9 and 11-18 were objected to due to minor informalities. Appropriate amendment has been made herein, taking into consideration the comments on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to these claims. Applicants submit that in view of these amendments, Claims 9 and 11-18 are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,409,576 (“Oguri”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent Claim 8 of the invention, as amended, recites a rotary body detection device detecting the speed of a rotary body and including a rotary body, and a sensor for

generating a signal by passage and blockage of light. The rotary body has a notch or a perforation formed on its axis, and the sensor generates a signal by passage and blocking of light from the notch or the perforation to detect a rotation speed of the rotary body.

Oguri, which relates to a polishing apparatus for polishing a surface of a workpiece, teaches a cleaning machine 7 which has a rotary body 1 and a sensor 20. The rotary body 1 has a disk shape, and a notch 1a is formed on a periphery of the rotary body 1. The sensor 20 detects the revolution of the rotary body 1 when the notch 1a passes through a detecting position.

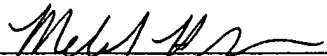
Applicants submit that, while Oguri may disclose the notch 1a in the rotary body 1, it does not teach or suggest, among other features in Claim 8, that a notch or a perforation is formed on an axis of a rotary body. According to Oguri, the notch 1a is formed on the disk-shaped rotary body 1 itself. Therefore, Applicants submit that Claim 8 patentably distinguishes the invention over Oguri. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102(e) objection are requested.

Applicants submit that the independent claims patentably define the invention over the cited art. The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable, for the same reasons that the base claims from which they depend are patentable, and further due to the additional features that they recite. Individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the application at the Examiner's earliest convenience are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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